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18 September 1969

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MEMORANDUM FOR:



SUBJECT : DCI Report to the PFIAB on "Coordination of the US Foreign Intelligence Effort"

In response to your note and John Bross' memo of 8 September 1969, OSR suggests the following items for consideration under the heading of actions to strengthen intelligence effectiveness (2d):

1. The National Security Council now uses the National Security Study Memorandum (NSSM) as a vehicle for coordinating an extensive series of studies of US defense policy. The structure of the studies invariably provides for consideration of the intelligence factors bearing on the problems, and the intelligence study subgroups usually include CIA, DIA, and INR. By this means, the intelligence community makes a direct contribution to policy planning. Studies to date have covered a wide spectrum of defense questions ranging from overall consideration of the US-USSR strategic balance, to possible options for mutual arms limitations, to a review of naval shipbuilding capabilities. In recent months involvement of the intelligence community in various facets of Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) has been particularly heavy.

2. The CIA-DIA collaboration on military intelligence noted in last year's report continues. We now have gained sufficient confidence in the methodologies developed in CIA for assessing Soviet ground forces to warrant their application to Chinese Communist forces. OSR is now actively planning with DIA for the development of a common data base for analysis of Chinese ground forces.

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3. Following separate requests from the Director of the Office of Emergency Preparedness and the Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, USAF--CIA and DIA initiated a joint study on Soviet Civil Defense. The study will examine the Soviet civil defense organization, the military's role in it, and the public and specialized civil defense training programs. It will also evaluate the protective characteristics of Soviet shelter facilities, the capabilities of the civil defense communications network, and the feasibility of Soviet plans to evacuate large cities. The study should result in much improved understanding of the actual level of effort being expended on civil defense, as the Soviets define it, and Soviet capabilities to minimize casualties in the event of hostilities.

4. Within the framework of the USIB-approved National Intelligence Projections for Planning (NIPP), CIA and DIA are engaged in extensive efforts to improve and update the estimates of the Soviet commitment of economic resources to defense and defense-related programs, including research and development and space. Major current efforts include an updating of the ruble estimates of military expenditure from a 1955 to a 1967 price base, allocation of total research and development expenditures by major military missions, and improved cost estimates of Soviet naval programs.

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Deputy Director  
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